

MINUTES

On this, the 20th day of July 2026, the Commissioners Court of Jack County, Texas, met in Special Session at 9:00 a.m., beginning with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and Texas flag, with the following individuals present:

Gary Oliver	Commissioner Precinct 1
Ronald Fitzgerald	Commissioner Precinct 2
Henry Bridwell, Jr.	Commissioner Precinct 3 / Judge Pro Tem
Terry Ward	Commissioner Precinct 4
Vanessa James	County Clerk
Suzanne Brooks	Chief Deputy Clerk
Lisa Perry	County Auditor
Brad Campsey	County Treasurer
Macauley Johnson	County Judge's Assistant/PIO
Alinda Cox	County Extension Agent
Lynn Casteel	Elections Administrator
Jessica Bailey	Justice of the Peace

The following public members were in attendance: Charlie Edmonson, Hayleigh Fudge, Jackie Ellis, Claire Ellis, Morgan Ellis, Randall Ellis, Ashley Anderson, Mary Sandberg, Connie Fellers, Anna Fitzgerald and Jeff Jackson.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS

Commissioner Ward moved to approve all submitted [accounts and claims](#). Commissioner Fitzgerald seconded the motion, which passed. (4-0).

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- (a) Approval of Minutes of Meeting for July 13, 2026;
- (b) Approval of Performance Bonds and Oaths for Jack County Sheriff's Deputy Ivan Lara;
- (c) Acceptance of Extension Activity and Travel [Reports](#) from agent Alinda Cox for the month of June 2026;
- (d) Authorize the County Judge to sign a [tax deed](#) for property located as Lot Fourteen (14), Block Twelve (12), City of Jacksboro, Jack County, Texas;
- (e) Acknowledge and approve the [engagement letter](#) with MWH Group CPA Consultants;

Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oliver and passed (4-0).

PUBLIC FORUM (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

The time limit was adjusted to 5 minutes by Commissioner Birdwell as Judge Pro-Tem. Several members of the public spoke to the Court.
([See Attachment](#))

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RECEIPT OF THE O'BANNION BESS TAX ABATEMENT APPLICATION

[Acknowledged and received.](#)

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION FOR THE TXDOT SLUSHER ROAD BRIDGE

Commissioner Fitzgerald spoke to the Court regarding the process of purchasing property for a Right-of-way needed for a bridge. No action taken at this time.

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER PRECINCT OPERATIONS

Discussion made, no action taken.

REPORTS, IF ANY, BY OTHER DEPARTMENT HEADS

Discussion made, no action taken.

Jack County 4-H members spoke to the Court about the summer camps they attended and what they learned.

BUDGET WORKSHOP FY2026-2027

Justice of the Peace
Elections Administrator
Tax Assessor-Collector
Internet Technology / EMC
County Attorney

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None mentioned.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Oliver moved to adjourn. Commissioner Fitzgerald seconded the motion, which passed unanimously (4-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Brian Keith Umphress, County Judge

Gary Oliver, Commissioner Pct. #1

Ronald Fitzgerald, Commissioner Pct. #2

Henry Birdwell, Jr., Commissioner Pct #3

Terry Ward, Commissioner Pct. #4

ATTEST:

Vanessa James, County Clerk